

THE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF DARLINGTON

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH

1959

DARLINGTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

1959

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Vice Chairman:

Councillor H. H. Miller.

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* Members of No. 11 Area Health Sub-Committee.

Clerk to the Council

J. Pattinson.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS AND STAFF OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY

Medical Officer of Health

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Chief Public Health Inspector and Surveyor:

J. D. Collins, C.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.
Certified Meat and Food Inspector.

Additional Public Health Inspector:

D. G. Warde, C.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.
Certified Meat and Food Inspector.

Engineering Assistant:

J. Cuthbertson.

Sewage Works Manager:

J. Blaik.

Building Inspector:

A. G. Oxborough.

Chief Clerk and General Assistant:

F. H. Hurworth.

Pupil Public Health Inspector:

N. Smith.
(Resigned 30th September, 1959)
G. Blakey.
Appointed 12th October, 1959.

Shorthand Typists:

Mrs. P. Lambell. — Mrs. M. H. Metcalfe.

ANNUAL REPORT, 1959

DARLINGTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting to you the 78th annual report upon the health and sanitary circumstances of your district for the year 1959.

In this introductory letter I am not, as in previous years, attempting to summarise the contents of the report as I have made comments on each section, but rather to give a general picture of the health sanitary circumstances and progress made during the year.

Vital statistics allow a comparison to be made between the health of the inhabitants of the Darlington Rural District and the health of the rest of the country, and the position in this respect is not as satisfactory as it has been during the past few years. The general death rate is higher and the live birth rate lower than the corresponding rates for England and Wales. The infantile mortality rate has shown a sharp increase, a fact for which I can give no satisfactory explanation. The still birth rate has, however, gone down considerably and maternal mortality was nil.

As regards infectious disease, measles reached epidemic proportions and one death occurred from paralytic poliomyelitis, otherwise there was little to cause concern. Preventive measures against certain infectious diseases continued during the year—vaccination against poliomyelitis and smallpox, and immunisation against diphtheria and whooping cough. It is to be regretted that more advantage of poliomyelitis vaccination is not taken by the older age groups.

At the end of the year arrangements were completed for B.C.G. vaccination of eligible school children and older students and at the time of writing this report the yearly programme for your district has been completed.

In this year's report I have, for the first time given, in addition to information on the services provided by the Local Health Authority, the extent to which these services were utilised in your district during the year.

Included in the report are the number of bacteriological examinations made in the Public Health Laboratory and I would again like to express my appreciation of the assistance and co-operation given by Dr. Payne and his staff of the Northallerton Laboratory.

Turning to the section of the report dealing with the environmental circumstances, I note with satisfaction the progress made towards achieving the objective of providing modern sewerage and sewage disposal installations throughout the whole district but I would like to see an accelerated rate of progress in the conversions of all remaining earth closets to the water carriage system.

The only comment I would make on housing is that, whilst unfit property is being most satisfactorily dealt with including the re-housing of the tenants of such property, I would, although I appreciate the economic position, like to see some houses built each year for ordinary needs.

Included in the report is a small section dealing with the Clean Air Act, and it would seem to me that, notwithstanding the obvious difficulties, there are strong grounds for making the new town of Newton Aycliffe a smokeless zone.

In conclusion I wish again to thank the Council and the Clerk to the Council for their continued support and courtesy and to thank Mr. Collins, Surveyor and Chief Public Health Inspector, and the staff of the department for their assistance and co-operation during the year.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen

Your obedient servant.

M. W. RODGERS.
M.B., B.CH., B.A.O., D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area of Rural District in acres	45,414
Resident population (including forces stationed in the area).	22,300
Total number of houses at 31st December, 1959 (including 135 R.A.F. Married Quarters).	6,442
Number of inhabited houses (excluding R.A.F. Married Quarters at 1st April, 1959).	6,236
Rateable value at 1st April, 1959.	£310,465
Sum represented by a penny rate.	£1,293 12s 1d
General Rate (excluding additional items and special rates in certain parishes) made in respect of the financial year ending 31st March, 1960.	16s 4d

Social Conditions and Employment.

There were no major changes in the employment position throughout 1959. A high level of employment was maintained and opportunities continued to be available for men in most of the skilled occupations and for physically fit male and female unskilled workers. The year was one of progress on the Trading Estate and industries on the Estate afforded employment for 4,109 persons of whom 2,922 were men. This was an increase of 295 over the previous year.

Although the new town of Newton Aycliffe continued to expand the number of houses completed was less than the average for previous years due to shortages of certain building materials but at the end of the year a further 273 houses were under construction. The total number of occupied houses was 3,222, an increase of 88 and the population 10,470. The Corporation continued its policy of providing about 5% of all dwellings built for old age pensioners. These are reserved for parents and near relatives of younger tenants, thus helping to create a more balanced age structure in the population.

Two further primary schools are under construction and work on a Roman Catholic Primary School and a second secondary modern school is due to commence early in 1960, as is the building of the Health Service Centre and Public Library.

STATISTICS

Population: 22,300
(1958 Population: 21,280)

Live Births.

The number of live births was 460 as against 515 the previous year.

			Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	..	..	218	231	449
Illegitimate	..	..	7	4	11
					<hr/>
					460
					<hr/>

Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population — 16.1

Still Births.

			Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	..	..	4	6	10
Illegitimate	..	..	—	1	1
					<hr/>
					11
					<hr/>

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 live and still births — 23.4.

Total Live and Still Births.

			Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	..	..	222	237	459
Illegitimate	..	..	7	5	12
					<hr/>
					471
					<hr/>

The total birth rate per 1,000 of the population — 21.1.

Infant Deaths.

			Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	..	..	11	4	15
Illegitimate	..	..	—	—	—
					<hr/>
					15
					<hr/>

Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births — Total — 32.6.

Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births — legitimate — 33.4.

Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births — illegitimate — Nil.

Neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births — 17.4.

Early neo-natal mortality rate (first week) per 1,000 live births — 13.04.

Perinatal mortality rate per 1,000 total births — 36.1.

Illegitimate live births per cent of total of live births — 2.4.

Maternal Deaths (including abortion)— Nil.

Maternal Mortality — Nil.

Deaths and Death Rate.

	Male	Female	Total
	101	78	179

Death rate per 1,000 of the population — 12.5.

Table of Rates.

	Darlington R.D.C.	England & Wales.
Live birth rate per 1,000 population ..	16.1	16.5
Still birth rate per 1,000 live and still births	23.4	21.0
Infantile mortality rate per 1,000 live births	32.6	22.2
Neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births	17.4	15.8
Perinatal mortality rate per 1,000 live and still births	36.1	34.2
Maternal deaths excluding abortion ..	Nil	0.32
Maternal deaths due to abortion ..	Nil	0.06
Total maternal mortality	Nil	0.38
Death rate per 1,000 population .	12.5	11.6

The population increased from 21,280 to 22,300 in the year under review.

The area comparability factors for use with crude birth and death rates contain adjustments for boundary changes and make allowance for the way in which sex and age distribution of the local population differs from that for England and Wales as a whole. In addition the death rate area comparability factors have been adjusted to take account of the presence of any residential institutions. The use of the factors makes the birth and death rates comparable with the crude rates for England and Wales or with the corresponding adjusted rates for any other area. .

Comparability factors for your area:—

Births	Deaths
0.78	1.56

Live Births.

There was a drop in the number of live births and this resulted in a rate which was, for the first time since 1948, slightly below the rate for the country.

**TABLE OF BIRTH AND DEATH RATES FOR RECENT YEARS
AS COMPARED WITH ENGLAND AND WALES**

Estimated Population of Darl'ton R.D.C.	Years	GENERAL DEATH RATE			INFANTILE MORTALITY RATE			LIVE BIRTH RATE		
		Darlington R.D.C.		England and Wales Rate	Darlington R.D.C.		England and Wales Rate	Darlington R.D.C.		England and Wales Rate
		No. of Deaths	Rate		No. of Deaths	Rate		No. of Births	Rate	
8,910	1945	122	13.69	11.4	7	45	46	155	17.39	16.1
9,382	1946	114	12.15	11.5	7	46	43	152	16.20	19.1
9,512	1947	115	12.09	12	8	41.88	41	191	20.08	20.5
10,030	1948	95	9.47	10.8	6	34.48	34	174	17.35	17.9
10,270	1949	98	9.5	11.7	7	37.6	32	186	18.1	16.7
10,650	1950	146	13.7	11.6	10	54.35	29.8	184	17.28	15.8
12,040	1951	127	10.55	12.5	8	38.83	29.6	206	17.1	15.5
13,070	1952	117	8.95	11.3	10	47.62	27.6	210	16.07	15.3
14,600	1953	150	10.99	11.4	8	24.02	26.8	333	20.98	15.5
16,230	1954	140	10.6	11.3	10	25.91	25.5	386	21.6	15.2
17,910	1955	194	13.3	11.7	10	24.04	24.9	416	21.14	15
19,310	1956	169	11.9	11.7	11	24.07	23.8	457	18.7	15.7
20,100	1957	146	10.17	11.5	10	20.4	23.1	490	19.26	16.1
21,280	1958	151	11.2	11.7	10	19.4	22.6	515	18.9	16.4
22,300	1959	179	12.5	11.6	15	32.6	22.2	460	16.1	16.5

Still Births.

This rate showed a considerable improvement as compared with 1958, eleven deaths as against sixteen.

Deaths of Infants under 1 year.

I regret that the infantile mortality rate compares very unfavourably with the rate of 19.4 for 1958, which was not only the lowest on record for your district but was, for the second year in succession, below the rate for England and Wales. Fifteen deaths occurred as compared with ten the previous year giving a rate of 32.6. The rate for England and Wales was 22.2.

Age Groups.

					Male	Female	
Under 1 week	..	..	..	..	5	1	} neonatal deaths
1 week	..	..	..	..	1	—	
2 weeks	..	..	..	..	1	—	
3 weeks	..	..	..	..	—	—
					7	1	
4 weeks and over	..	..	..	..	4	3	
					11	4	
					15		

Causes of Death.

					Male	Female
Congenital abnormalities	..	..	..	..	4	2
Prematurity	..	..	..	..	1	—
Atelectasis and Prematurity	..	..	..	..	2	1
Pneumonia	..	..	..	..	2	—
Gastro enteritis	..	..	..	..	1	1
Accident	..	..	..	..	1	—
					11	4

It will be noted that ten of the fifteen deaths were due to pre-natal causes—congenital abnormalities or prematurity.

Deaths (all ages)

The death rate was higher than the rate for the previous year and also above the rate for England and Wales.

Table Showing Causes of Death.

	Male	Female	% of total deaths
Tuberculosis (Respiratory)	1	1	1.1
Tuberculosis (Other)	—	—	—
Syphilitic Disease	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infection	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	1	—	.6
Measles	—	—	—
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	—	—	—
Malignant Neoplasm Stomach	4	2	3.3
Malignant Neoplasm Lung, Bronchus	2	1	1.7
Malignant Neoplasm Breast	—	3	1.7
Malignant Neoplasm Uterus	—	—	—
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	16	4	11.2
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	—	—	—
Diabetes	—	3	1.7
Vascular lesions of nervous system	11	20	17.3
Coronary Disease, Angina	19	11	16.8
Hypertension with heart disease	—	1	.6
Other Heart Disease	6	9	8.4
Other circulatory disease	5	1	3.3
Influenza	2	—	1.1
Pneumonia	5	3	4.5
Bronchitis	5	2	3.9
Other disease of respiratory system	1	1	1.1
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	2	—	1.1
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	1	1	1.1
Nephritis and Nephrosis	1	1	1.1
Hyperplasia of Prostate	2	—	1.1
Pregnancy, Child Birth and Abortion	—	—	—
Congenital malformations	4	2	3.3
Other defined and ill defined diseases	6	7	7.3
Motor vehicle accidents	3	—	1.7
All other accidents	2	4	3.3
Suicide	2	1	1.7
Homicide and operations of war	—	—	—
	101	78	100.0

Rates for certain diseases as compared with England and Wales.

				Rate per 1,000 Population	
				Darlington Rural District	England and Wales
General death rate	..	..	..	12.5	11.6
Cancer, Lung and Bronchus	..			0.13	0.46
Other Cancer	..	..	..	1.3	1.676
Vascular lesions of nervous system				1.4	1.65
Coronary disease, Angina	..	..		1.3	1.87
Hypertension with heart disease	..			0.04	0.25
Other Heart Disease	..	..	..	0.67	1.58
Other circulatory disease	..	..		0.27	0.52
Respiratory Tuberculosis	..	..		0.09	0.077
Other Tuberculosis	..	..	..	Nil	0.008
Influenza	..	..	..	0.09	0.175
Pneumonia	..	..	..	0.36	0.609
Acute Poliomyelitis	..	..	..	0.04	0.001

Age Groups	Under 4 wks.	4 wks.—	1—	5—	10—	15—	20—	25—	30—	35—
	M F	M F	M F	M F	M F	M F	M F	M F	M F	M F
Deaths	7 1	4 3	2 -	- -	2 1	1 1	3 -	4 -	- 2	3 1

Age Groups	40—	45—	50—	55—	60—	65—	70—	75—	80—	85—
	M F	M F	M F	M F	M F	M F	M F	M F	M F	M F
Deaths	1 2	6 3	3 4	11 5	7 4	7 5	11 10	17 14	10 13	2 8

The table giving causes of death and the percentage of deaths due to individual diseases shows that 46% were due to diseases of the heart and arteries. This is a slightly lower percentage than in previous years. Malignant diseases were responsible for the same percentage as in 1958—18%. There was a decrease in deaths from cancer of the lung—three as compared with eight—but an increase in other forms of cancer.

The table comparing the rates for certain diseases with those for England and Wales shows that for cancer the rates were lower than the country's rates.

Approximately 29% of male and 45% of female deaths occurred at ages 75 years and upwards.

MALIGNANT NEOPLASM.

The following table gives the deaths from Malignant Neoplasm in age groups and localisation.

Localisation	10-15 M F	20- M F	25- M F	30- M F	35- M F	40- M F	45- M F	50- M F	55- M F	60- M F	65- M F	70- M F	75- M F	80- M F	Total M F
Stomach ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	2	—	1	4 2
Lung ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2 1
Breast ...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2
Uterus ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Buccal Cavity & Pharynx	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Digestive organs other than Stomach ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	1	—	1	1	1	7 1
Respiratory System other than Lung ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Genito urinary organs other than Uterus ...	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	3 3
Other Sites ...	1	2	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5
	1	2	2	—	1	1	1	2	1	2	—	4	1	2	22 9

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

Measles reached epidemic proportion during the year which resulted in a greatly increased number of notifications as compared with 1958. Apart from this there is little in the table of notifications on which to comment.

No notifications of Poliomyelitis were received but one case of the paralytic form of the disease occurred in a young man of 25 years and was unfortunately fatal. He had not been immunised. The notification was made from a hospital to the local authority of the district in which the hospital is situated.

This was the only case of infectious disease admitted to Isolation Hospital.

Table of cases as notified set out in age groups.

	At all ages	Under 1	1—	2—	3—	4—	5—9	10—14	15—24	25 and over	Age unknown	Total deaths
		M F	M F	M F	M F	M F	M F	M F	M F	M F	M F	
Scarlet Fever	11	—	—	1	—	1	3	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Infection	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Neonatorum	14	—	—	—	1	2	3	—	—	1	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(a) Paralytic	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Non-Paralytic	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—
(Primary & Infl.)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever (incl.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	412	7	19	29	31	27	89	1	—	—	3	2
Whooping Cough	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis:	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(a) Pulmonary	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Other	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	447	7	7	21	30	28	95	1	2	3	4	—

All notifications were confirmed

TUBERCULOSIS

New Cases and Mortality during 1959.

Age Groups		New Cases				Deaths			
		Respiratory		Non-Respir'y		Respiratory		Non-Respira'y	
		male	female	male	female	male	female	male	female
Under 1	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6—10	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
11—15	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
16—20	...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
21—25	...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
26—35	...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
36—45	...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
46—55	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
56—65	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
66 & over	...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Total	...	3	—	—	—	1	1	—	—

The total number of new cases for 1959 was 3 pulmonary as compared with 12 pulmonary and 1 non-pulmonary in 1958.

Two deaths occurred during 1959 (pulmonary) as compared with one death (pulmonary) the previous year.

Table showing new cases and Mortality during the past 10 years.

Year	New Cases				Mortality			
	Respiratory		Non-Respira'y		Respiratory		Non-Respira'y	
	male	female	male	female	male	female	male	female
1950	1	2	—	—	3	1	—	—
1951	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
1952	2	3	—	—	—	1	1	—
1953	5	6	—	—	4	1	—	—
1954	7	3	1	3	2	1	—	—
1955	3	7	—	—	10	1	—	2
1956	6	5	1	—	—	1	1	—
1957	4	5	—	1	—	1	—	1
1958	9	3	—	1	1	—	—	—
1959	3	—	—	—	1	1	—	—

Number of Cases on register.

Year	Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
1954	18	26	44	5	8	13
1955	23	33	56	6	6	12
1956	30	38	68	6	7	13
1957	36	37	73	6	6	12
1958	39	39	78	6	8	14
1959	40	35	75	5	7	12

Tuberculosis Mortality Rate: Respiratory 1959 — 0.09.
Non-Respiratory 1959 — Nil.

CASE RATE FOR INFECTIOUS DISEASE, 1959.

					Rate per 1,000 Home Population	
					Darlington R.D.C.	England and Wales
Notifications (Corrected)						
Scarlet Fever	..	..	..	..	0.49	1.06
Whooping Cough	..	..	..	..	0.13	0.73
Measles	..	..	..	..	18.5	11.9
Pneumonia	..	..	..	..	0.13	0.59
Poliomyelitis						
Paralytic	..	..	..	..	—	0.02
Non-Paralytic	..	..	..	..	—	0.006
Food Poisoning	..	..	..	..	0.04	0.22
Dysentery	..	..	..	..	0.6	0.78
Tuberculosis						
Respiratory	..	..	..	..	0.13	0.54
Meninges & N.S.	..	..	..	..	—	0.005
Other	..	..	..	..	—	0.06

It will be noted that with the exception of measles, the notification rates were lower than those for the country as a whole.

Food Poisoning Outbreaks.

(a)	Total number of outbreaks	—	Nil.
(b)	Number of cases	—	Nil.
(c)	Number of deaths	—	Nil.
(d)	Organisms or other agents responsible	—	Nil.
(e)	Foods involved, with number of outbreaks associated with each food	—	Nil.

Single Cases.

One — agent not identified.

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

The numbers of persons vaccinated or immunised in the district for which records were received during 1959 are given in the following tables:—

Smallpox.

	Under 1 yr.	1 yr.	2-4 yrs.	5-14 yrs	15 yrs and over	Total
Vaccinated ...	171	6	8	15	18	218
Re-vaccinated ...	—	—	1	3	10	14

Diphtheria and Whooping Cough.

	Primary Immunisations				Re-inforcing injection			
	Under 1 yr.	1-4	5-14	Total	Under 1 yr.	1-4	5-14	Total
Diphtheria & Whooping Cough	294	48	9	351	—	28	36	64
Diphtheria ...	5	3	2	10	—	5	9	14
Whooping Cough...	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—

Poliomyelitis.

	Number of persons vaccinated in Sessions during 1959.		
	1st Injection	2nd Injection	Total number of 3rd. injections given in 1959 (all classes).
Children ...	941	1,024	} 1,234
Expectant Mothers ...	43	48	
Young Persons ...	628	595	
Total injections ...	1,612	1,667	1,234

Poliomyelitis vaccinations given at doctors' surgeries are not included in the above table.

LABORATORY WORK

Bacteriological Examinations.

FAECES

Number of Specimens	Dysentery Positive	Other Organisms Positive
6	Nil	Nil

THROAT SWABS

Number of Specimens	Organisms Positive
3	Nil

SPUTUM

Number of Specimens	Tuberculosis Positive
2	1

POULTRY PRODUCTS

(Cooling Tank Water)

Number of Specimens	Salmonella Positive
2	Nil

LIQUID EGG

Plate Count at 37°

Number of Specimens	Less than 100,000	More than one Million	Salmonella Positive
5	1	4	Nil

MILK

Number of Samples		Milk Ring Rest			Brucella Abortus Positive
	+	+	+	Trace	
61	3	6	2	1	6

WATER

Number of Specimens	Class 1	Class 2	Class 3	Class 4
33	29	1	-	1

National Assistance Act, 1948—Section 47.

No statutory action was taken under this Section.

This section gives local authorities power to deal with certain cases of persons in need of care and attention which they are unable to provide for themselves and are not receiving from other people. During the year only one person in this category was brought to my notice but she was a hospital as distinct from a hostel case and was on the waiting list for hospital admission.

In other cases the persons concerned were willing to go into hostels or were able to stay in their own homes with the assistance of domestic helps.

During the year nine people were maintained in residential hostels and in December, 1959 eight were on the waiting list for admission. Domestic help was given in twenty-six cases—all old age pensioners.

HEALTH SERVICES ADMINISTERED BY THE LOCAL HEALTH AUTHORITY (DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL) IN YOUR AREA.

County Medical Officer.: Dr. G. Wilson. Health Department, Shire Hall, Durham. Telephone No. Durham 4411.

Assistant County Medical Officer (No. 11 Area) : Dr. M. W. Rodgers, Council Offices, Sedgfield. Telephone No. Sedgfield 555.

Advice on any of the services listed below may be obtained on application to the above.

Welfare Services.

(a) Residential Hostel Accommodation.—This is provided for aged, infirm and handicapped persons, but the accommodation at present is limited.

Persons from your district maintained during the year in residential hostels were:—

Males — 4
Females — 5

Number of persons on waiting list:—

Males — 5
Females — 3

(b) Blind Persons.—A comprehensive service is provided which includes medical examination, home visiting and teaching, assistance in obtaining suitable employment in workshops or at home, admission to homes for the blind and general social welfare. A residential hostel reserved for blind persons is situated in Durham City.

(c) Other Handicapped Persons.—Certain welfare services are available for persons who are deaf and dumb, partially sighted, or substantially and permanently handicapped by illness, injury or congenital deformity.

Figures for your district for 1959 were:—

	Male	Female
No. of registered blind persons	13	14
No. of registered partially sighted persons	3	2
No. of registered deaf persons	10	10
No. of registered hard of hearing	11	2
No. of registered handicapped persons ..	11	5

Home Nursing.

Visits made by the district nurses during the year were:—

	Cases	Visits
(a) Medical cases	173	4,453
(b) Surgical Cases	72	1,184
(c) Tuberculosis	3	162
(d) Maternal complications	1	4

Domiciliary Midwifery Service.

Births attended by County Midwives within your district were 145.

Total births (live and still)	145 domiciliary.
Cases attended as midwife and nurse ..	145
Hospital patients discharged home before 14th day	45
Total cases attended	190

Health Visitors.

The health visitors provide the link between the home and the County Health Department. They give advice on the care of young children, to expectant and nursing mothers and aged or ill persons and they stress the measures necessary to prevent the spread of infection.

Visits made in your district during the year.

	No. of Visits
(a) maternity and child welfare	5,329
(b) tuberculosis	189
(c) general health	2
(d) mental deficiency	38
(e) school	150
(f) aged people	24

Domestic Help.

Domestic helps are provided by the County Council where necessary in cases of sickness, childbirth, infirmity or other household emergencies. A charge may be made for this service under certain circumstances according to income scale.

During 1959 the service provided in your district was:—

No. of home helps employed during year	..	12
Cases served at 1st January, 1959	.. ..	11
New cases provided during year	.. .. .	15
Total number which received service during year		26*
Cases served at 31st December, 1959	.. ..	19

* all cases were old age pensioners.

Prevention of Illness, Care and After Care.

Nursing equipment is provided for sick persons at the request of medical practitioners, district nurses, and hospital almoners. Invalid chairs are also available and extra nourishment or bedding can be supplied to patients suffering from tuberculosis. A charge is normally made for this service, but in certain circumstances the charge may be reduced or remitted altogether.

Five patients were supplied with nursing equipment during the year.

Mental Health Services.

A comprehensive scheme is provided by the County Council.

Figures for your area:—

No. of persons registered as mental defectives	..	30
No. of persons under supervision in their own homes		22
No. of persons in hospitals for mental defectives	..	8
No. of children educated in educationally sub-normal schools	.. .. .	8

Vaccination and Immunisation.

- (a) Vaccination against smallpox may be obtained free of charge on application to any medical practitioner who has agreed to give service within the National Health Service Scheme. Facilities are also available for the vaccination of children at maternity and child welfare centres.
- (b) Immunisation against diphtheria and whooping cough may be carried out on application to maternity and child welfare centres or to any general practitioner operating under the National Health Service Act, free of charge.
- (c) B.C.G. vaccination against tuberculosis may in certain circumstances be carried out by chest physicians at the chest clinics.
- (d) Vaccination against poliomyelitis is available to the following groups of people:—
 1. Persons born after 1st January, 1920 who have attained the age of six months.
 2. Expectant mothers.
 3. General medical practitioners and their families.
 4. Ambulance drivers and their families.
 5. Hospital staffs, medical students and their families.

Number of persons vaccinated and immunised will be found on page 16.

Ambulance Services.

The County Council provides a free ambulance service for persons in your area for whom ambulance transport is NECESSARY. In an emergency any responsible person may summon an ambulance by telephone by asking to be connected to the nearest ambulance message receiving centre (no telephone number need be given). As a general rule, however, requests for the use of an ambulance should originate from hospitals, doctors, nurses, midwives, dentists or the police. A doctor in attendance may give a patient or a relative a note certifying in advance the need for ambulance transport and this certificate should be posted or taken to the nearest ambulance message receiving centre.

Relatives or friends of out-patients attending hospitals for treatment cannot be carried except for some special reason, in which case an application to the County Medical Officer of Health, Shire Hall, Durham will be considered sympathetically.

The table below shows the work undertaken on behalf of the Durham County Council by the Darlington ambulance service but it should be noted that these figures do not include patients living in the rural district who have been carried by vehicles in the County service as it is not possible to calculate these from the records.

No. of journeys undertaken	..	..	..	1,394
Cases carried (a) stretcher cases	..	..	..	316
(b) sitting cases	..	..	..	1,099
Mileage covered	..	..	..	14,864

Residential Nurseries.

Residential nurseries are available for certain cases and information regarding these may be obtained from the Children Officer, Crossgate Moor, Durham. Telephone No. Durham 3311.

Number of children in Children's Homes and Residential Nurseries—6.

CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN

Arrangements exist for mothers and children under 5 years to attend Darlington Borough Clinics where this is more convenient. County Clinics to serve certain areas of the Rural District are held as shown in the following table.

Address of Centre	Sessions	
Sedgefield Surveyor's Office Tel.: Sedgefield 221	Child Welfare Centre	Alternate Tuesdays.
Sildon Friends Meeting House, Byerley Road	Ante-natal Clinic	Alternate Monday mornings.
	Child Welfare Centre	Monday afternoons weekly.
	Ultra Violet Ray Clinic	Monday afternoons weekly.
Chilton Red Cross Station	Ante-natal Clinic	Alternate Wednesday mornings.
	Child Welfare Centre	Alternate Wednesday afternoons.
Middleton-St.-George The Parochial Hall	Child Welfare Centre	Alternate Monday afternoons.
Newton Aycliffe Community Centre	Child Welfare Centre	Thursdays weekly.

Welfare Foods.

National dried milk, orange juice, cod liver oil and vitamin tablets for mothers and babies are distributed from centres in the area as follows:—

Aycliffe Women's Institute	Wednesday mornings, 10 a.m. to 12 noon.
Hurworth Women's Institute	Alternate Tuesday afternoons, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

and from Maternity and Child Welfare centres listed above.

Clinics and Welfare Centres held in the County Borough of Darlington which are attended by mothers from the Rural District.

Maternity and Child Welfare Centres:—

Corporation Road Methodist Schoolroom	Monday 10 a.m. to 12 noon 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Thompson Street Methodist Schoolroom, North Road	Monday 10 a.m. to 12 noon 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Albert Road, Schoolhouse, Albert Road	Tuesday 10 a.m. to 12 noon 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Eastbourne Nursery School, Belgrave Street	Wednesday 10 a.m. to 12 noon 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Coniscliffe Road Methodist Schoolroom, Coniscliffe Road	Thursday 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Cockerton Methodist Schoolroom, The Green, Cockerton	Friday 10 a.m. to 12 noon 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Haughton le Skerne Church Hall	Friday 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Ante-natal Clinics.

Eastbourne Nursery School, Belgrave Street	Thursday 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Albert Road, Schoolhouse, Albert Road	Friday 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Hostels for Unmarried Mothers and Babies.

The County Council maintain Smelt House, Howden le Wear as a home for unmarried mothers and their babies and accommodation is also provided by the Durham Diocesan Moral Welfare Association.

Unmarried mothers are admitted to the maternity homes and hospitals controlled by the Regional Hospital Board.

Convalescent Home Accommodation.

The E. F. Peile Home, Shotley Bridge is available for mothers with babies under six months and for children aged one to five years. Admissions are made on the recommendation of the medical officers at the maternity and child welfare centres.

Admission to other convalescent homes may be arranged in certain circumstances.

School Medical Service.

Permanent school clinics are held as under and children may attend the most convenient :—

Billingham, Queensway	Medical Officer attends Tuesday and Friday.
Newton Aycliffe, Sugar Hill County Infants School	Medical Officer attends Tuesday and Friday.
Sildon, Hallgarth House, Main Street	Medical Officer attends Tuesday and Friday.

THE REGIONAL HOSPITAL SERVICES

Tuberculosis Service.

Clinics are held at Hundens Unit, Hundens Lane, Darlington. All cases are seen by appointment.

Special Treatment Service.

Clinics are held at Hundens Unit, Hundens Lane, Darlington as follows:—

Women and Girls	Wednesday and Friday 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Men and Boys	Tuesday 10 a.m. to 12 noon Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Infectious Disease.

There are 23 beds at Hundens Unit, Hundens Lane, Darlington.

Maternity Accommodation.

Maternity cases are admitted to Greenbank Hospital, Bishop Auckland General Hospital, and Hardwick Hall Maternity Home.

SECTION B.

WATER SUPPLY, SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL AND GENERAL SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES.

Distribution of Water.

The parishes included within the area of the various statutory undertakers are as follows:—

Tees Valley and Cleveland Water Board.

Archdeacon Newton (part), Barmpton (part), Bishopton, Brafferton (part), Coatham Mundeville, Denton (part), East and West Newbiggin, Great Burdon, High Coniscliffe, Hurworth, Killerby (part), Little Stainton, Low Coniscliffe, Low Dinsdale, Middleton-St-George, Morton Palms, Neasham, Piercebridge, Sadberge, Summerhouse (part).

Durham County Water Board.

Great Aycliffe, Brafferton (part), Denton (part), Great Stainton, Heighington, Houghton-le-Side, Killerby (part), Summerhouse (part), Walworth.

Darlington Corporation.

Blackwell, Whessoe, Archdeacon Newton (part), Barmpton (part).

The only parish not included is Sockburn and it is recommended in the Spens report that this area should go to the Tees Valley and Cleveland Water Board.

The Council supply water in part of the parishes of Brafferton, Whessoe and Coatham Mundeville, which they purchase in bulk from the Tees Valley and Cleveland Water Board; and in Barmpton from a bulk supply from the Darlington Corporation.

All villages and hamlets have main piped water from the statutory undertakers except Denton and Low Dinsdale.

With regard to Denton there is a piped estate supply (spring which is unsatisfactory) and it is hoped that negotiations will be speeded up in connection with an alternative mains water supply.

The majority of the houses in Low Dinsdale parish are situated in the village of Middleton-St-George and are supplied by the Tees Valley and Cleveland Water Board. In Low Dinsdale hamlet the houses take their supply from a private bore hole.

At Sockburn a private spring is piped and serves all the houses. The quantity of water available is limited in the adjacent parish of Neasham and Middleton-St-George and if supplies to these latter parishes were improved it might be possible to take a mains water supply to Sockburn.

Bacteriological Examination of Water.

The following samples were taken during the year:—

	Class 1.	Class 2.	Class 3.	Class 4.
Ayeliffe Village	6	—	—	1
Newton Ayeliffe	9	—	1	—
Ayeliffe Trading Estate	5	—	—	—
Bishopton	1	—	—	—
Hurworth	2	—	1	—
Middleton-St-George	2	1	—	—
Heighington	1	—	—	—
Low Dinsdale (private supply)	3	—	—	—

In addition to the above, 92 samples were taken by the Durham County Water Board of which 90% were satisfactory. Five samples were taken by Darlington Corporation and were satisfactory. There were 783 samples taken by Tees Valley and Cleveland Water Board of which three were unsatisfactory.

It will be seen from the above table that one sample was Class 2 (satisfactory), two samples were Class 3 (suspicious) and one was Class 4 (unsatisfactory). The drop in bacteriological purity was only temporary and subsequent samples from the same sources reverted to Class 1 (excellent).

Some complaints were received of unpleasant taste thought to be due to over chlorination but examination of water samples for free chlorine did not substantiate the complaints. All samples gave a reading of less than 0.15 p.p.m.

The Water Boards are to be congratulated on meeting the difficulties caused by the drought of 1959.

One sample of water was sent for chemical examination from Middleton-St-George.

	Parts per 100,000			
Chlorine as Chlorides	1.3000
Nitrogen as Nitrates	0.1254
Ammonia	0.0165
Albuminoid Ammonia	0.0075
Oxygen Absorption	0.1108
Injurious Metals	None
Total Solid Matter dried at 100° C.	20.0000
pH value of Sample	7.4
Temporary Hardness	3.8000	Degrees		
Permanent Hardness	8.0000	..		
Colour of sample on Hazen Scale	Hazen	8
Appearance of Sample in 2 foot tube	Not quite clear	
Odour when heated to 50° C.	Very faint-earthly	

Microscopical Examination—satisfactory.

Observations.

The sample affords no evidence of pollution by sewage or drainage associated with sewage and the microscopical examination is satisfactory. The sample is of wholesome quality for human consumption.

Average Hardness in parts per million.

	Total	Temporary	Permanent
Darlington Corporation	128	—	—
Durham County Water Board:			
Newton Aycliffe	110	—	—
	as CaCO ₃		
Other Villages	50	—	—
Tees Valley & Cleveland			
Water Board	135	81	54
Lartington Gravitation supply	58	41	17

No waters in the area are known to be plumbo-solvent.

Progress Report on Schemes for Water Supply.

	Name of Scheme and Area to be Served.	
	Great Burdon (T.V.W.B.)	Denton (T.V.W.B.)
Water	Water main extension 3 in.	Extension of mains.
Date of M. of H. Enquiry	—	—
Estimated Cost	£4,449	To be provided.
Date commenced	August, 1958	—
Date completed	24th October, 1958	
Remarks and Progress	3 domestic and 2 non-domestic connections made by December, 1959 (only two outstanding). T.V.W.B. asked if they would object to ext. of D.C.W.B. area to include this hamlet. T.V.W.B. prefer to supply themselves.	

The proportion of dwelling houses and the proportion of the population supplied from the public mains is as follows:—

Parish	No. of Occ'pied houses	Approx Popu- lation	Water Authority Supplying	Direct to the house		By means of stand pipe	Total houses supplied	% of houses supplied	Pop. supplied direct	Pop. supplied by stand pipe
				Open	Meter					
Archdeacon Newton	19	65	T.V. & C.W.B. Church Commissioners & D'ton Corporation	—	15	—	15	79%	51	—
Newton Aycliffe	3,225	11,120	D.C.W.B.	3,221	4	—	3,225	100%	11,120	—
Great Aycliffe	252	867	D.C.W.B.	233	19	—	252	100%	867	—
Barmpton	23	79	D.R.D.C. T.V. & C.W.B.	14	7	—	21	91%	72	—
Bishopton	94	324	T.V. & C.W.B.	79	15	—	94	100%	324	—
Blackwell	157	542	Darlington Corporation	125	16	—	141	90%	487	—
Brafferton	48	165	D.R.D.C.	35	9	—	44	91%	150	—
Great Burdon	20	69	T.V. & C.W.B.	17	3	—	20	100%	69	—
Coatham Mundeville	44	152	D.R.D.C. & D.C.W.B.	27	13	—	40	99%	151	—
High Coniscliffe	84	290	T.V. & C.W.B.	67	17	—	84	100%	290	—
Low Coniscliffe	107	369	T.V. & C.W.B.	90	12	—	102	95%	351	—
Denton	19	65	Raby Estates	15	—	—	15	79%	51	—
Low Dinsdale	161	555	T.V. & C.W.B.	154	6	—	160	99%	550	—
East & West Newbiggin	8	27	T.V. & C.W.B.	—	4	—	4	50%	13	—
Great Stainton	24	83	D.C.W.B.	10	14	—	24	100%	83	—
Heighington	380	1,326	D.C.W.B.	282	68	—	350	92%	1,210	—
Houghton-le-Side	24	83	D.C.W.B.	3	10	—	13	58%	48	—
Hurworth	575	1,984	T.V. & C.W.B.	541	31	—	572	99%	1,953	—
Killerby	20	69	T.V. & C.W.B.	17	3	—	20	100%	69	—
Little Stainton	19	65	T.V. & C.W.B.	10	9	—	19	100%	65	—
Middleton-St-George	*585	2,019	T.V. & C.W.B.	543	23	—	566	97%	1,959	—
Morton Palms	16	55	T.V. & C.W.B.	5	8	—	13	81%	46	—
Neasham	95	328	T.V. & C.W.B.	76	8	—	84	89%	259	—
Piercebridge	50	172	T.V. & C.W.B.	45	5	—	50	100%	158	—
Sadberge	180	621	T.V. & C.W.B.	162	16	—	178	99%	615	—
Sockburn	8	27	Capt. Crosby, Neasham Hill	8	—	—	8	100%	27	—
Summerhouse	30	103	T.V. & C.W.B.	27	3	—	30	100%	103	—
Walworth	37	127	D.C.W.B. & Walworth Estate	15	17	—	32	86%	109	—
Whesoe	159	549	D.R.D.C. & D'ton Corporation	144	14	—	158	99%	543	—
	6,463	†22,300		5,965	369	—	6,334	97.9%	21,793	—

* Includes 144 R.A.F. Married Quarters.

† Includes H.M. Forces stationed in district.

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.

The sewage works situated at Aycliffe (design capacity 500,000 gallons per day) deal with Newton Aycliffe, the Trading Estate and Aycliffe village. The dry weather flow at the end of the year was estimated at 615,000 gallons per day with an average daily flow of 673,300 gallons per day. The works are connected to a completely separate system of sewers and there are no storm overflows. Extensions are proposed to meet the growth of the new town and the trading estate as the works are already overloaded.

Towards the end of the year a breakdown occurred on the pumps dealing with the re-circulation of effluent to the biological filters and the consultant was instructed to prepare plans and make arrangements for the alteration of the pump house and the provision of new dry well pumps.

At Hurworth, Hurworth Place, Low Coniscliffe, High Coniscliffe, Blackwell and Bishopton the works are either inadequate or require renewal. There are modern sewage works at Great Stainton, Heighington, Redworth and Sadberge but extensions are required at Sadberge and Heighington. No sewage works exist at Piercebridge, Killerby, Merrybent, Walworth, Brafferton and Neasham and some of the houses in these villages have cesspools.

It is hoped that next year the Council will be in a position to start work on a sewerage scheme for the villages of Hurworth, Hurworth Place and Neasham including the provision of new works at Hurworth. It is also hoped that work will be commenced on a new sewerage scheme at Whessoe where the sewage is to be pumped into the head of the Darlington Corporation sewer on the borough boundary. The progress report also shows that a sewerage scheme is proposed for the villages of Low Coniscliffe and Merrybent, the sewage to be pumped to a manhole within the borough boundary (allowances are to be made for High Coniscliffe in this scheme). It is hoped that schemes will be prepared during the year for Bishopton and Blackwell. The progress made during 1959 will be seen in the following table.

PROGRESS REPORT ON SEWAGE DISPOSAL AND SEWERAGE SCHEMES.

Name of Scheme and Area to be Served	Sewerage	Date of M. of H. Enquiry	Est. Cost	Date Commenced	Date Completed	Remarks and Progress
Aycliffe Sewage Works Extension (Part II)	S.D.	—	£120,000	—	—	Approved by Council July, 1959. Preliminary report May, 1959, Public notice August, 1959. Approved Wear and Tees River Board January, 1960.
Middleton-St.-George, Contract No. 1. 286 yds & 230 yds 12 in. sewer.	S. & S.D.	25/9/57	£25,400	24/11/58	—	Approved by Ministry 22/11/57. Tender accepted 1/10/58. Was substantially completed and works in operation December, 1959.
Middleton-St.-George, Contract No. 2. 1,300 yds of 12" & 9" sewer.	Sewerage	—	£13,150	15/9/59	—	Approved by Ministry 10th April, 1959. Tenders accepted £10,241, confirmed by Ministry 20th August, 1959. Work started 15th September, 1959.
Bishopton	S. & S.D.	25/9/57	£20,960	—	—	Council's Engineer interviewed Ministry officials 22/11/57 regarding minor amendments. Ministry prepare to approve revised scheme. letter 22/7/58. Received Planning, County Council and River Board approval during 1959 and Ministry approval 31st December, 1959.
Great Burdon	S. & S.D.	25/9/57	£6,050	17/11/58	June, 1959	Ministry prepared to approve scheme 22/11/57. Application for loan consent 13/11/58. Ministry approval of tender 2/10/58. Pumping Works put into operation 1st June, 1959.
Low Coniscliffe and Merrybent (High Coniscliffe to be included Sept. 1959).	Sewerage	None	£24,621 (1958)	—	—	The County called for revised estimate for scheme including Merrybent letter 16/7/57 and approved estimates 6/6/58. Further amendments requested by Tees Valley Water Board, Darlington Corporation and Wear and Tees River Board. Approved 7th October, 1959.

PROGRESS REPORT ON SEWAGE DISPOSAL AND SEWERAGE SCHEMES — Continued.

Name of Scheme and Area to be Served	Sewerage	Date of M. of H. Enquiry	Est. Cost	Date Commenced	Date Completed	Remarks and Progress
Whessoe	Sewerage	—	£23,467	—	—	Ministry agreed urgency of scheme and called for revised estimates 2/12/57. Agreement reached with Darlington Corporation for reception and treatment of sewage 24/12/59. Awaiting report on site for Pumping Station.
Hurworth, Hurworth Place and Neasham	S. & S.D.	21/7/59	£55,950	—	—	Hurworth scheme amended to take Neasham 4/11/57. Approval by Council 9/11/58, D.C.C. 11/12/58 and by River Board 22/12/48. Ministry enquiry 21/7/59, observations of Ministry re-pumping to Darlington dealt with late 1959.
Brafferton	S. & S.D.	Not yet arranged	£5,650 (1952)	—	—	Not of such urgent character as would justify this being proceeded with at present (Ministry 1953).
Piercebridge	S. & S.D.	Not yet arranged	£10,034 (1952)	—	—	Submitted to Ministry, 1954, urgency to be decided by local investigations.
*High Coniscliffe	S. & S.D.	Not yet arranged	£4,853 (1953)	—	—	
Sadberge	S. & S.D.	Not yet arranged	£3,747 (1953)	—	—	
Blackwell	Sewerage	Not yet arranged	£6,687 (1955)	—	—	Submitted to Council.
Summerhouse	S. & S.D.	Not yet arranged	£3,740 (1954)	—	—	Awaiting submission to Council.
Killerby	S. & S.D.	Not yet arranged	£4,160 (1954)	—	—	Awaiting submission to Council.

* see note under Low Coniscliffe and Merrybent.

W.C. Conversions.

Public Health Act, 1936, Section 47.

During the year 14 ash closets were converted to water closets. The owners of the properties concerned received a maximum grant of £12 10s. 0d. for each conversion.

The Council paid £175 in grants during the year, an increase of £50 on the previous year when 10 ash closets were converted.

The total conversions carried out since the commencement of the voluntary scheme in 1937 number 187 ash closets and 176 privy middens at a total cost to the Council of £3,615 13s. 6d.

In addition to the above, five conversions were carried out during the year at Aycliffe where the Council paid half the cost of the conversion and sewer connection. The new sewerage scheme necessitated the separation of surface water from foul waters and the connection of foul drainage to the sewerage system. This special grant was made to assist property owners and to help to offset the high cost of excavation made necessary by the rocky nature of the terrain.

The Council paid £292 13s. 11d. in grants during the year.

The total conversions carried out at Aycliffe since the sewerage of the village was complete were 39 at a total cost to the Council of £1,755 8s. 11d.

Public Scavenging.

A weekly refuse collection was carried out in a satisfactory manner during the year, including the emptying of litter baskets. There are fifty-five litter baskets in the area. The Council have a fleet of six refuse vehicles manned by a staff of thirty-one men. The fleet comprises four Shelvoke & Drewry 16/18 cub. yd. fore-and-aft tippers with power presses, a Paragon 3 bay 17 cub. yd. and a side loader Bedford 6 cub. yd. The Council ordered a 25/30 cub-yd fore-and-aft Shelvoke and Drewry tipper to replace the Bedford and meet the increased requirements of Newton Aycliffe.

The tips for the disposal of refuse are situated at Brafferton, Piercebridge, Summerhouse and Heighington. A private tip in use by the Council at Neasham took fire and as a result tipping had to cease. Alternative arrangements were made at one of the Council's other tips and towards the end of the year another tipping site was found in a disused clay pit at Hurworth. The Brafferton tip serves the major part of the Council's area (northern) and negotiations are progressing for the purchase of an additional 1.7 acres of land.

SANITARY INSPECTION.

Summary of inspections, investigations and visits made during the year.

Complaints investigated	66
-------------------------	----	----	----	----	----	----

Public Health Acts:—

Houses	..	..	..	..	..	2
Other Premises	..	..	..	..	..	11
Animals improperly kept	..	..	..	..	..	9
Dirty and verminous premises	..	..	..	..	..	—
Drainage defects	..	..	..	..	..	9
Conversions	..	..	..	..	..	34
Cesspools	..	..	..	..	..	3
Seavenging	..	..	..	..	..	16
Water Supplies (including samples)	..	..	..	..	..	40
Dangerous Buildings	..	..	..	..	..	19
Offensive Trades	..	..	..	..	..	—
Living Vans	..	..	..	..	..	32
Public Conveniences	..	..	..	..	..	11
Re-inspections	..	..	..	..	..	7
Schools	..	..	..	..	..	2
						195

Housing Acts:—

Houses	..	..	..	..	..	195
Overcrowding	..	..	..	..	..	—
House-let-in-lodgings	..	..	..	..	..	2
Certificate of disrepair	..	..	..	..	..	10
Improvement Grants	..	..	..	..	..	107
Applications for re-housing	..	..	..	..	..	30
Council house repairs and maintenance	..	..	..	..	..	564
Re-inspections	..	..	..	..	..	73
Demolitions	..	..	..	..	..	23
						1,004

Factories Acts:—

Factories with power	..	..	..	..	..	37
Factories without power	..	..	..	..	..	12
Outworkers	..	..	..	..	..	—
Sites of building operation and works of engineering construction	..	..	..	..	..	94
						143

Food and Drugs Acts:—

Registered Food Premises	..	..	..	..	..	5
Food Shops	..	..	..	..	..	77
Restaurant Kitchens	..	..	..	..	..	3
Canteens	..	..	..	..	..	1
Public Houses	..	..	..	..	..	2
Ice Cream Vendors	..	..	..	..	..	17
Butcher's Shops	..	..	..	..	..	18

carried forward 123

Food and Drug Acts —continued							brought forward	123
Poultry Paeking	..	..	..	..	..	..		16
Neepak	..	..	..	..	..	..		3
Milk Distributors	..	..	..	..	..	..		9
Slaughterhouses	..	..	..	..	..	..		10
Meat Inspeetion	..	..	..	..	..	..		320
Unsound Food	..	..	..	..	..	..		9
Knaekers Yard	..	..	..	..	..	..		2
Bakehouse	..	..	..	..	..	..		1
							Total	493
Shops Acts :—								79
Infectious Diseases.								
Infeetious Disease	..	..	..	..	..	..		9
Infeetious contaets	..	..	..	..	..	..		4
Food Poisoning investigations	..	..	..	..	..	..		1
Dysentery investigations	..	..	..	..	..	..		4
Pathological specimens eollected	..	..	..	..	..	..		3
Fumigations	..	..	..	..	..	..		—
							Total	21
Rodent Control								51
Building Byelaws.								
Foundations	..	..	..	..	..	..		77
Buildings in eourse of ereetion	..	..	..	..	..	..		164
Drains inspeeted and tested	..	..	..	..	..	..		368
Completed properties	..	..	..	..	..	..		171
Planning	..	..	..	..	..	..		77
								857
Miscellaneous.								
Sundry visits	..	..	..	..	..	..		119
Interviews	..	..	..	..	..	..		150
Scwage Works	..	..	..	..	..	..		68
Sewerage	..	..	..	..	..	..		103
Refuse tips	..	..	..	..	..	..		34
Diseases of animals	..	..	..	..	..	..		2
Biological speeimens	..	..	..	..	..	..		53
Disposal of dead	..	..	..	..	..	..		2
Ineffeetive visits	..	..	..	..	..	..		25
Footpaths and bridle roads	..	..	..	..	..	..		14
Petrol tanks	..	..	..	..	..	..		4
Fire prevention	..	..	..	..	..	..		2
Painting contraets	..	..	..	..	..	..		100
Furniture	..	..	..	..	..	..		15
Trade effluent samples	..	..	..	..	..	..		2
							Total	693

SECTION C.

HOUSING.

Erection of New Houses.

The total number of inhabited houses at the 31st December was 6442 and the number of houses built during the year under review is shown in the attached table.

New Houses completed during the year	With State Assistance	Unaided	Total	Total 1958
(a) By Local Authority ...	19	—	19	32
(b) *By any other Housing Authority ...	88	—	88	247
(c) By Private persons ...	—	27	27	39

*includes houses built at Newton Aycliffe.

Improvement Grants — Housing Act, 1949. No. of Separate Houses.

1. Discretionary Grants.

(a) Applications approved by Local Authority during the year ..	24
(b) Total number of applications approved since inception of scheme	139
Amount paid in grants by the Council during the year	£8,754 0s. 0d.
Total amount paid in grants by the Council since the inception of scheme	£34,524 13s. 0d.

2. Standard Grants.

(a) Applications approved by Local Authority during the year ..	5
(b) Total number of applications approved since inception of scheme	5
Amount paid in grants by the Council during the year	Nil
Total amount paid in grants by the Council since the inception of scheme	Nil.

Council Houses.

The Council have built 456 Council houses up to the 31st December comprising 74 pre-war and 382 post-war houses. During the year 19 houses were erected compared with 32 during 1958.

Plans approved for new Council houses are as follows:—

6 Houses and 4 Aged Persons Bungalows at Sadberge.

2 Houses at Heighington Street, Aycliffe.

10 Aged Persons Bungalows at Middleton-St-George.

Rent Act, 1957.

Certificates of Disrepair.

(1) Number of applications for certificates ..	8
(2) Number of decisions not to issue certificates	Nil.
(3) Number of decisions to issue certificates ..	8
(a) in respect of some but not all defects	3
(b) in respect of all defects	5
(4) Number of undertakings given by landlords under paragraph 5 of the First schedule	7
(5) Number of undertakings refused by Local Authority under proviso to paragraph 5 of the First Schedule	Nil.
(6) Number of Certificates issued	Nil.
(7) Applications by landlords to Local Authority for cancellation of certificates ..	Nil.
(8) Objections by tenants to cancellation of certificates	Nil.
(9) Decisions by Local Authorities to cancel in spite of tenants' objection	Nil.
(10) Certificates cancelled by Local Authority	Nil.

SUMMARY OF HOUSES IN CLEARANCE AREAS AND UNFIT HOUSES ELSEWHERE

	Houses Demolished	Displaced during year	
		Persons	Families
A. Houses Demolished.			
In Clearance Areas.			
(1) Houses unfit for human habitation	1	4	2
(2) Houses included by reason of bad arrangement, etc. ...	—	—	—
(3) Houses on land acquired under Section 43 (2) Housing Act, 1957 ...	—	—	—
Not in Clearance Areas.			
(4) As a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 17 (1) Housing Act, 1957	18	27	9
(5) Local Authority owned houses certified unfit by the Medical Officer of Health	4	47	7
(6) Houses unfit for human habitation where action has been taken under local Acts	—	—	—
(7) Unfit houses included in Unfitness Orders ...	—	—	—
B. Unfit Houses Closed.			
	Number		
(8) Under Sections 16 (4), 17 (1) and 35 (1). Housing Act, 1957	1	5	1
(9) Under Sections 17 (3) and 26, Housing Act, 1957 ...	—	—	—
(10) Parts of buildings closed under Section 18, Housing Act, 1957	—	—	—
C. Unfit Houses made Fit and Houses in which Defects were Remedied.		By Owner	By Local Authority
(11) After informal action by local authority		42	—
(12) After formal notice under:			
(a) Public Health Acts		—	—
(b) Sections 9 and 16 Housing Act, 1957		—	—
(13) Under Section 24, Housing Act, 1957 ...		1	—
D. Unfit Houses in Temporary Use (Housing Act, 1957)			
Position at end of year.			
(14) Retained for temporary accommodation		No. of Houses (1)	No. of Separate Dwellings contained in (1) (2)
(a) under Section 48		—	—
(b) under Section 17 (2)		—	—
(c) under Section 46		—	—
(15) Licensed for temporary occupation under Section 34 or 53		—	—
E. Purchase of Houses by Agreement.		No. of Houses (1)	No. of Occupants of Houses in (1) (2)
(16) Houses in Clearance Areas other than those included in confirmed Clearance Orders or Compulsory Purchase Orders, purchased in the quarter		—	—

Slum Clearance.

Progress Report on 5 year plan commeneing January 1st, 1956
ending December 31st, 1960.

Parish	Housing 5 year plan	Houses dealt with	Houses not dealt with	Other Houses dealt with
Aycliffe	20	20	—	18
Bishopton	4	4	—	13
Barmpton	—	—	—	5
Great Burdon	5	4	1	7
Blackwell	1	—	1	1
Brafferton	1	—	1	2
Coatham Mundeville	2	1	1	4
High Coniscliffe	2	2	—	12
Low Coniscliffe	3	—	3	3
Denton	1	—	1	—
Low Dinsdale	3	—	3	—
Great Stainton	1	1	—	3
Heighington	10	1	9	13
Hurworth	19	7	12	21
Killerby	—	—	—	—
Middleton-St-George	33	23	10	10
Neasham	4	1	3	7
Piercebridge	—	—	—	15
Sadberge	20	5	15	5
Sockburn	1	—	1	—
Summerhouse	2	1	1	—
Walworth	1	—	1	—
Whessoe	3	2	1	—
	136	72	64	139

Houses in 5 year plan	136
Houses dealt with	72
Houses not dealt with	64
Other Houses dealt with	139
Total Houses dealt with by Closing, Demolition Orders, or made fit	211

Overcrowding.

No cases of statutory overerowding as such were reported during the year but applications are still being received from families "living in" for the tenancy of Council houses. With the decrease in the number of houses being built for ordinary needs it is to be feared that this figure will grow as it is almost impossible for newly married couples to obtain housing accommodation.

Sixty-two applications were made on the grounds of "living-in."

Applications for Council Houses.

Applicants residing in the Rural Area.

Villages where Houses are required	COUNCIL HOUSES		AGED PERSONS BUNGALOWS	
	No. with home of their own	No. without home of their own	No. with home of their own	No. without home of their own
Aycliffe, Great	18	4	1	1
Bishopton	1	—	1	—
Brafferton	—	1	—	—
High Coniscliffe	6	3	1	—
Low Coniscliffe	1	—	—	—
Heighington	20	6	2	1
Hurworth	30	12	5	1
Middleton-St-George	25	20	9	1
Neasham	—	—	—	—
Piercebridge	17	7	—	—
Sadberge	10	6	7	2
Great Stainton	—	—	—	—
Summerhouse & Killerby	3	—	—	—
Whessoe	1	3	—	—
	132	62	26	6

Moveable Dwellings.

At the end of the year there were 15 moveable dwellings of which four were unlicensed. Planning approval was not given and the occupier has been asked to clear the site.

Licensed Sites.

There are two licensed sites for twelve moveable dwellings in the area.

Moveable Dwelling Licences.

The number of other licences issued in the area during the year was four to station five caravans.

SECTION D.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Inspection of Meat and Other Foods.

There are four licensed slaughterhouses in the district owned by private persons. During the year 320 meat inspection visits were made when 1,130 carcasses, with a total weight of approximately 83 tons were inspected.

	Cattle Exclud- ing Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed ...	225	—	1	766	138	—
Number inspected ...	225	—	1	766	138	—
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci: Whole carcasses condemned ...	—	—	1	4	2	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	80	—	—	25	5	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci ...	35.49	0.00	100	3.82	5.06	0.00
Tuberculosis only: Whole carcasses condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part of organ was condemned ...	2	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis ...	.89	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Cysticercosis: Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—	—

Carcases and portions thereof, and organs having a total weight of 12 cwt. 8 st. 6 lbs. were found to be diseased or otherwise unfit for human consumption and were disposed of accordingly.

Carcases or large parts thereof are dyed green after inspection. Large amounts of meat are sent to an approved knackers yard. Small quantities are disposed of by burial.

Six 6 lb. tins of corned beef, three 10 lb. tins of cooked ham, 7 lbs. of coconut and 80 tins of various foods found to be unsound were surrendered and destroyed.

Milk.

Licences under the Special Designation Regulations were issued as follows:—

Tuberculin Tested	—	4		
Pasteurized	—	6	Total Distributors	— 9
Sterilized	—	4		
The following supplementary licences were issued:—				
Tuberculin Tested	—	5		
Pasteurized	—	5	Total distributors	— 5
Sterilized	—	3		

FOOD PREMISES.

Shops.

Further progress was made during the year regarding improvements to shops. Three shops were closed, one due to unsatisfactory premises and two due to other reasons.

Satisfactory arrangements continued to be made in new food premises to enable them to comply with the Regulations.

The standard of hygiene was good and continued efforts were made to ensure maintenance of a high standard.

Food Vans.

Many travelling shops and food vans continued to serve the area, particularly at Newton Aycliffe. Inspections of these were made as the opportunity occurred and from these and the absence of complaints it would appear that they operate in a satisfactory manner.

Other Food Premises.

There are in the district a poultry packing station, a producer of liquid egg and two wholesale bakeries.

The conditions at the poultry packing station from which the output steadily increased are still not satisfactory, although there was some improvement during the year. The producer has given orders for machinery and plant to improve methods of production but the shortage of water still causes some difficulty.

At the egg packing station a small quantity of liquid egg is produced and investigations of bacteriological standards were made in conjunction with the Director of the Public Health Laboratory. It was satisfactory that no salmonellae were detected in any of the samples although I would like to see better plate counts.

There are no complaints regarding other food premises.

FOOD PREMISES.

	Bakers	Confec- tioners	Butchers	Fish Shop (wet and cooked)	Grocers and Provisions	General Dealers	Miscel- laneous including Green Grocers	Licensed Premises			Cafes	Total
								Clubs	Shops	P.H.		
Aycliffe, Newton	4	5	4	2	8	1	9	2	1	3	2	41
Aycliffe, Great	—	1	2	—	1	2	—	—	—	3	1	10
Barmpton	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Bishopton	—	—	1	—	1	2	—	—	—	3	—	7
Blackwell	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	2
Brafferton	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2
Coatham Mundeville	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	2	4
Coniscliffe, High	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	3
Coniscliffe, Low	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Dinsdale, Low	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	1	—	3
Great Stainton	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Heighington	—	—	1	—	2	1	—	—	—	4	—	8
Hurworth	1	1	3	1	3	4	—	1	—	5	1	20
Middleton-St-George	—	3	1	2	1	4	—	—	1	4	1	17
Neasham	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	2
Piercebridge	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	2
Sadberge	—	—	—	1	—	3	—	—	—	2	—	6
Summerhouse	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	2
Whessoe	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	2
	5	10	13	6	17	24	9	6	2	35	7	134

Registration of Food Premises, Food and Drugs Act, 1955, Section 16.

There were no new applications for registration of premises for the preparation or manufacture of sausages or potted, pressed, pickled or preserved food intended for sale.

There are no manufacturers of ice-cream in the area. One application was received for registration of premises for the storage and sale of pre-packed ice-cream. The premises were inspected, found to be suitable and registered.

Registered premises are shown in the following table.

			Sale and Storage of Ice-Cream.	The preparation or manufacture of sausage, picked or preserved food.
Newton Aycliffe	..	..	6	—
Aycliffe, Great	..	..	5	1
High Coniscliffe	..	..	1	—
Heighington	..	..	3	1
Hurworth	..	..	7	3
Middleton-St-George		..	7	—
Piercebridge	..	..	1	—
Whessoe	..	..	2	—
Bishopton	..	..	1	—
Sadberge	..	..	2	—
			—	—
			35	5
			—	—

Educational Activity.

There are only 21 multiple or large stores in the area, the others being premises of the house and shop type run by the family without outside assistance.

Educational activities took the form of visits to these premises and discussion with food handlers.

SECTION E.

CLEAN AIR ACT AND FACTORIES ACT.

Industrial Premises.

There are 94 industrial premises in the rural district with furnaces including 87 on the North East Trading Estate. From time to time complaints were received of smoke nuisance from about six of the plants on the trading estate. Professional advice was obtained in one case where the smoke nuisance appeared to be more serious and as a result towards the end of the year there was no complaint about these premises. With regard to the others, a survey did not indicate that any offence had been committed. During the year 12 boiler house attendants working in the North Eastern Trading Estate attended classes run by the National Industrial Fuel Efficiency Service and it is hoped that this educational activity together with the visits made to the factories, will do much to impress upon industrialists in the area the need to take every care in the use of appliances.

Four applications were received for prior approval certificates for 1959 making a total of five since the Act came into force.

Domestic Premises.

A special report was made to the Council in connection with the desirability of making a smoke control area in that part of the district covering the new town.

The Council was informed that all houses on the new town have approved appliances and apart from any difficulty in obtaining the authorised fuels and the problem of a few of the tenants who have concessionary coal, there seemed to be no reason why an order should not be made. The Council decided to defer the matter for twelve months to enable a further report to be submitted after the installation of measuring equipment (deposit gauge and lead peroxide instrument).

The Council Buildings Bye-laws made under Sec. 61 Public Health Act, 1936 and the Clean Air Act (sec. 24) were amended to allow for the provision of approved appliances (1st June, 1959).

Factories Acts 1937 to 1959.

There are 135 factories in your district but of these there are only 17 in which mechanical power is not used.

The Act (Section 7) requires that suitable and sufficient sanitary accommodation must be provided and kept clean and in only three cases were defects found to exist during the year. Satisfactory sanitary accommodation was provided in three cases where existing facilities were insufficient and in one case where accommodation was defective.

In the case of the factories in which mechanical power is not used, the other provisions relating to cleanliness, overcrowding, temperature, ventilation and drainage of floors come under the control of the local authority. In connection with these matters, from inspections made and the absence of complaint there would appear to be no infringement of the Act.

During the year the Durham County Fire Brigade Service Officers made three inspections of factories and following the execution of their recommendations three certificates for Means of Escape in Case of Fire were issued. The total number of certificates issued and in force are thirty. There are no basement factories in your area.

There are no outworkers in your area.

**PRESCRIBED PARTICULARS ON THE ADMINISTRATION
OF THE FACTORIES ACT 1937 to 1959.**

PART 1 OF THE ACT.

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

PREMISES (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspec- tions (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occu's Pr'secuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority	17	12	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	118	37	3	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises)	44	94	—	—
Totals	179	143	3	—

2. Cases in which Defects were found.

Particulars (1)	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred by H.M. Inspector (4)	Referred by H.M. Inspector (5)	No. of Cases in which prosec'n were instituted (6)
Want of cleanliness (S1)	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S2) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S3) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S6) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S9)	—	—	—	—	—
(a) Insufficient ...	2	3	—	1	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	1	—	1	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) ...	3	*3	—	—	—
Totals	6	7	—	2	—

* Means of Escape in Case of Fire (Certificates).

SECTION F.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Rag Flock and other Filling Materials Act and Regulations, 1951.

There are no manufacturers in the district but three registered premises where these materials are used.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955 — Knackers Yard.

There is one licensed knackers yard in the area. Inspections have been made and the present methods of slaughter found to be satisfactory.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1959.

During the year the Council's sewers were test baited and treated as recommended by the Ministry.

Fifteen local government properties, twelve dwelling houses and two business premises and three agricultural properties were found to be infested and successfully treated.

Eighteen complaints were received and dealt with.

During the year the Development Corporation for Newton Aycliffe arranged for the training of one of their own staff as Rodent Operator to deal with complaints received at their housing department. The Council provided poison baits and any necessary advice. During the year seven complaints were received six showing evidence of rats and one of mice and satisfactory treatments were made.

Petroleum (Regulations) Act, 1928-36.

Licensing of Petroleum Installations.

During the year petrol installations were examined by Officers of the County Fire Brigade Service and recommendations made regarding requirements. At the end of the year in only eight cases were these requirements not complied with.

There are twenty licensed premises in your area where Tanks had been fixed for twenty years or more, these were tested and recommendation made for their replacement. There were sixty-two renewal licences issued in connection with the storage of petroleum spirit during the year and no new licences were issued.

The number of installations in the various parishes are indicated in the chart below.

Aycliffe	22	Coniscliffe High	3	Middleton St. Geo.	4
Blackwell	2	Dinsdale Low	1	Neasham	2
Bishopton	4	Great Burdon	2	Piercebridge	3
Barmpton	1	Heighington	2	Sadberge	4
Coniscliffe Low	3	Hurworth	4	Summerhouse	2
				Whesoe	3

Byelaws in force in District.

The Council's Building Byelaws were amended on the 7th April, 1952 to allow for the substitution of 7 ft. 6 in. ceiling heights for 8 ft. The amendment in the Byelaws came into effect as and from 1st August, 1952. The same byelaws were amended under Sec. 61 of the P.H.A. 1936 and Sec. 24, Clean Air Act 1956 to provide for arrangements in buildings for prevention of smoke (1 June, 1959).

New Streets	9th May, 1938.
Food Handling	8th May, 1950.
Byelaws relating to the Sanitary Conditions and Management of Private Slaughter-houses	1st April, 1957.
Nuisances contrary to Public Decency in the Parishes of Great Aycliffe, Heighington, Hurworth and Middleton-St-George	1st June, 1957.

Prudhoe, Darlington